

WILLIAM TIMOTHY AND SARAH ROOKER TONKS THACKER

Wm Timothy Thacker was one of the stonecutters for the building of the Wasatch Stake Tabernacle and other buildings in Heber, Utah.



William Timothy Thacker was born November 7, 1854, at Darlington, Staffordshire, England, a son of William and Sarah Tonks Thacker. Married Sarah Rooker Tonks on December 7, 1875. She was born December 11, 1858, in England a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Rooker Tonks. Sarah died March 14, 1929. William died in November 1940.

William Timothy Thacker was two years old when he came to America with his parents and moved with them to Utah in 1861. While yet very young he carried his father's lunch to him at the shop in Salt Lake where he made nails for the Salt Lake Theater. In the fall they went to glean wheat in the fields, which they threshed with sticks and cleaned by letting it fall from a height so the wind would blow the chaff out.

He went with his parents to Cache Valley and then to Poca. By this time William was learning to drive oxen and when his parents moved to Heber he hauled cord wood to Salt Lake.

They lived in Heber, where William T. got a job with Arthur Bradder, cutting stone for the Wasatch Tabernacle. He learned this work quickly and was soon an expert stone-cutter and helped cut stone for all the stone buildings in Heber, including the Court House, the old bank and school buildings.

DANIEL BIOGRAPHIES

They moved to Buysville, which later became part of the Daniel Ward, and here he was head of the YMMA and worked in the Sunday School for many years. He loved to sing and dance and presided over the amusements for some time.

A marital band, the only one outside of Heber, had as members, Fred Thacker and Lash Averett as fliers; Wilford Nelson, William T. Thacker and Charles Thacker as snare drummers, and John Thacker as bass drummer, who were always on hand at the 4th and 24th of July celebrations at Charles-ton to play stirring music.

William T. and his wife went to Pleasant View near Provo on March 20, 1919, where they lived until his wife, Sarah, passed away. William then went to live with his children. He died at the home of his daughter, Rose Hansen.

They were the parents of seven children: Sarah, William Raymon, Mary L., Fredrick R. L., Rose Nellie May, John M. M., and Mable Y. G.

Stone
Cutter &
Mason
for
Wasatch
Lake
Tabernacle
Wm T
Thacker
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liam and were going to draft him into the army to fight in the Civil War, but emigration officers freed him from the assignment. With help provided by the Emigration Fund, they left Florence, Nebraska, July 1, 1861, for Utah with an ox-team and wagon in Captain Joseph Horne's company. Charles Cowley was the teamster. The family walked, except Rachel, who was a heavy woman. They made 15 miles a day, stopping to wash, etc.

Once after a heavy rain, William found what he thought were mushrooms, gathered some and cooked them for dinner. They were toadstools and made the family very ill. After all were administered to they recovered and suffered no ill effects.

They arrived in Salt Lake September 18, 1861, and lived in a dugout west of the Temple block while William worked in President Young's blacksmith shop at the mouth of City Creek, making nails for the Salt Lake Theater. The children went to school in Brigham Young's school house with his children. November 5, 1861, William bought a farm from the Church and built an adobe house. Charles was born August 18, 1862. John was born June 7, 1863 and Fredrick A., October 1864.

After living in Salt Lake three years they moved to Cache Valley, living in Logan one year, then moving to Clarkston, then to Smithfield, then to Peoa, where he worked as a blacksmith. He also worked on the railroad coming into Utah and was at Promontory Point when the road was completed, and at the celebration of the driving of the golden spike. After this they moved to Heber and finally out south of Heber to Buysville in 1871, where he homesteaded a quarter section on Daniels Creek.

William was a small man, only five feet five. He and Rachel were very sociable people and met with others in the evenings to sing. William had a fine bass voice and Rachel, soprano. They were wonderful help in the wards this way. While in Buysville, the ward was organized and William was pointed first counselor to Charles J. Wahlquist. Rachel worked in Relief Society, helped others sew and knitted for others to help make a living for the family. William was a great 'prayer.' They were very charitable, never letting anyone go away hungry.

William liked to walk and would walk from Daniel and carry a bucket of eggs to

town. People report that when anyone would stop and offer him a ride, he would say, "No thanks, I'm in a hurry." In his declining years he lived with his children.

His living children were: Hannah, Anna Maria, Elizabeth, William Timothy, Isabell, Charles E., John, Fredrick A., and George Nephi Hughes, and adopted son.

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THOMAS J. ORGILL AND MARY E. NELSON ORGILL

Thomas Jackson Orgill was born August 22, 1878, in Juab County, Utah, the oldest son of Mark and Rachel Orgill. When he was eight years old the family moved to Daniel in Wasatch County, where he lived the rest of his life.

On June 12, 1912, he married Mary Emily Nelson, daughter of Wilford and Matilda Nelson, also of Daniel. He was born March 31, 1890. They had no children of their own, but adopted two, Stella and Otto, whom they reared to adulthood. Many children of other people stayed at their home.



For many years Thomas drove the milk route from all the small communities around to the creamery in town. He was an expert horseman and was proud that he always had one of the finest pulling teams in the valley. He worked as a miller, farmer and watermaster, and in later years took care of the Wolf Creek road. He worked in the Sunday School and was a High Priest. He died January 12, 1938, when he was 59 years old.

He was known as a kind, friendly, fun-loving person. He was a marvelous storyteller, and because he could mimic anyone, people never tired of his funny stories.

Mary is known for her delicious cooking, beautiful flowers, her great devotion to God, and work in Relief Society, where she has served as teacher, class leader, magazine representative, secretary, and twice as president.

After her husband's death she supported herself by working on the school lunch until she was retired at 65. Now, at 73, although her health is poor, she still works to support herself and to raise her beautiful flowers, and to bring happiness to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.